

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 DODE-00  
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/026 W

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O R 051420Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6348

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 12743

OSOECD, EXCON

E. O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM, UK, RO, IT

SUBJECT: SOLIDEV CASE

REF: (A) STATE 183245, (B) STATE 181329

1. DURING AUGUST 5 CONVERSATION WITH OFFICERS FROM STATE-CONTROLLED ECONOMIES OFFICE, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, EMBOFFS DISCUSSED MOS CIRCUITRY AND MACHINE TOOL ITALIAN CASES AS WELL AS SOLIDEV PROBLEM. EMBOFF DESCRIBED THE ISSUES AS "SEPARATE AND UNRELATED", AND ADDED THERE WAS HOPE THAT SOLUTIONS SATISFACTORY TO ALL PARTIES COULD BE FOUND. EMBOFF FIRST OUTLINED EFFORTS UNDERWAY TO OBTAIN APPROVAL FOR MACHINE TOOL SALE THEN PARAPHRASED PARA 2 REFTEL B REGARDING MOS CIRCUITRY WITH FOOTNOTE THAT ITALIAN DELEGATION SHOULD NOT BE DISCOURAGED BY EARLIER US COCOM DELEGATION OBJECTIONS. HE THEN DESCRIBED SOLIDEV CASE AS OUTLINED IN REFTEL A.

2. WHILE NOT PLEADING TOTAL IGNORANCE OF THE SOLIDEV CASE, OFFICE DIRECTOR GIORGIO REITANO DID REMARK HE WAS UN-AWARE OF USG INTEREST. THIS PRECEDED HIS EXPLANATION  
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THAT ITALIAN TECHNICIANS HAD ONLY RECENTLY RECEIVED UK RESPONSE TO GOI COCOM DELEGATION QUESTIONS AND, BECAUSE OF HOLIDAYS, HAD, AT PRESENT, NEITHER THE TIME NOR THE MANPOWER TO RESPOND. REITANO ADDED THAT THIS SITUATION WILL PERSIST THROUGH AUGUST. ONLY SOLUTION POSSIBLE, HE BEMOANED, WAS A "POLITICAL ONE" WHEREBY TECHNICAL FACTORS WOULD BE SUPERSEDED IN FAVOR

OF A DECISION FROM SENIOR LEVELS OF THE GOVERNMENT.

3. EMBOFF THEN CONCLUDED THAT SINCE NEITHER HE NOR REITANO POSSESSED THE TECHNICAL EXPERTISE TO CONTINUE THE DISCUSSION, HE ONLY WOULD REITERATE URGENCY OF THE SITUATION. (EMBOFF SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED AUGUST 20 DEADLINE.) REITANO ACCEPTED COMMENT. HE ALSO ASKED TO BE KEPT INFORMED OF ANY FURTHER PROGRESS IN THE MOS CIRCUITRY AND MACHINE TOOLS CASE.  
HOLMES

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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